

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Robert L. Morgan Executive Director Lowell P. Braxton Division Director 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 PO Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-7223 (TDD)

October 24, 2003

David Godlewski Teck Cominco American, Inc. 15918 East Euclid Avenue P.O. Box 3087 Spokane, Washington 99220

Subject: Bond Reduction, Tech Cominco American, Inc., Apex Mine, M/053/004, Washington County,

Utah

Dear Mr. Godlewski:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me at the Apex Mine on September 4, 2003. This inspection was at your request to inspect the Backfill Rock Quarry #1 that had been reclaimed. The field inspection of this area confirmed that the recontouring of this area was satisfactory and release of the regrading portion of the bond that covers this area can be initiated.

A review of the Apex Mine surety estimate shows that a total of \$800 had been calculated for the regrading and stabilization of this area. An additional \$447 dollars has been included for the revegetation of this area. The revegetation portion of the bond is not available for release due to the fact that the area has not been seeded. This amount will be available when the vegetation in this area has achieved a cover minimum of 70% of the surrounding plant community.

Because the amount that can be released for the regrading of the quarry area is relatively small (\$800), the Division questions the efficiency of initiating a reduction of the bond thru the surety company. If you feel that this reduction of the present surety is worthwhile please notify me and I will complete the process to affect the release.

If you have any questions please contact me at (801) 538-5382.

Sincerely,

Doug Jensen

Reclamation Engineer